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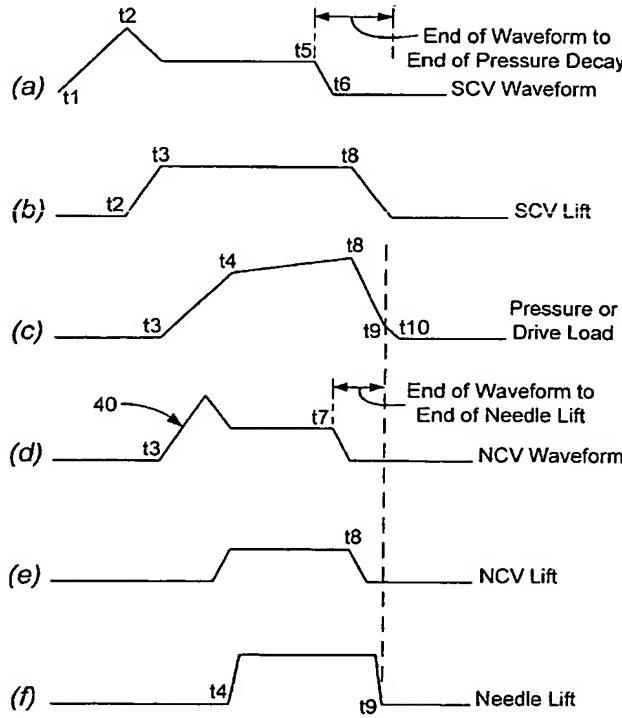
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(54) Title: CONTROL METHOD



(57) Abstract: A control method for a fuel injection system having a spill valve (20), a nozzle control valve (22) and a valve needle (12) which is engageable with a seating to control fuel injection, wherein the method comprises applying a first drive current signal (30) to the spill valve (22) to move the spill valve (22) into a closed state and applying a second drive current signal (40) to the nozzle control valve (22) to move the nozzle control valve (22) to an open state, thereby to lift the valve needle (12) from the seating to initiate a main injection of fuel. The first drive current signal (30) is modified so as to move the spill valve (20) to an open state during "a spill valve opening period" during which the second drive current signal (40) is modified to move the nozzle control valve (22) from the open state to a closed state. As a result the valve needle (12) is seated to terminate the main injection of fuel.

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